

NEWS RELEASE

Winner of the 2002 National Gold Medal Award

1001 Fourth Street Greensboro, NC 27405 www.greensboro-nc.gov/leisure

DATE OF RELEASE: June 21, 2006

**PROGRAM CONTACT:** Stephen D. Hyers, City Arts Drama Center, 336-335-6426

NAME OF PROGRAM: 3<sup>rd</sup> Stage Theatre Company presents *The Miss Firecracker Contest* 

**DAYS OF WEEK:** Thursday – Sunday

**DATE:** July  $13^{th} - 16^{th}$ , 2006

**TIME:** 8 pm nightly (Sunday matinee at 2 pm)

**FEE:** Adults: \$12, Senior Citizens: \$10 and Students: \$8

**LOCATION:** Weaver Academy Theatre

**ADDRESS:** 300 S. Spring Street, Greensboro, NC

**DESCRIPTION:** The  $3^{rd}$  Stage Theatre Company is proud to announce its  $3^{rd}$  show, *The Miss Firecracker Contest* by Beth Henley. This hilarious Southern comedy will be presented July  $13^{th} - 16^{th}$  on the stage at Weaver Academy for the Performing Arts. Beth Henley is best know for her play, "Crimes of the Heart," but with *The Miss Firecracker Contest* she takes a whole new set of characters with all their Southern

charm, bless their hearts, into the world of small town beauty pageants.

The Storyline...

Carnelle is tired of the small town of Brookhaven, Mississippi, and tired of her reputation as "Miss Hot Tamale." So she enters the Miss Firecracker Contest on the Fourth of July. "If I could just win first prize then I would be able to leave this town in a crimson blaze of glory!" Carnelle is at times aided, at times hindered, in her quest by a delightfully quirky supporting cast that includes her eccentric cousin Delmount, her nearsighted seamstress Popeye, and her cousin Elain, a former Miss Firecracker. Then, of course, there's Tessy, the love-starved pageant coordinator and the scruffy, fatalistic, ladies' man, Mac Sam the Balloon Man. Beth Henley's play, *The Miss Firecracker Contest*, is a delightful southern comedy that features characters who, in spite of — or maybe because of — their quirks, foibles, and eccentricities, are just as human as the rest of us.

Tickets are available online at: <a href="www.city-arts.org">www.city-arts.org</a>, or by calling the Triad Stage Box Office at 336-272-0160. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Stage Theatre Company is a program of the City Arts Drama Center of the Greensboro Parks & Recreation Department, which includes the Greensboro Children's Theatre and Livestock Players.